

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:GBHELMAN/AF/S:JDAVIDOW:SGH
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 117985

FOR VICE PRESIDENT'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XP, OVIP

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL BRIEFING MATERIAL ON SOUTHERN AFRICA
JOHANNESBURG FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S PARTY
REF: BELGRADE 3269

1. WE HAVE PREPARED THE MATERIAL YOU REQUESTED REFTTEL
FOR USE IN YOUR CONVERSATION WITH THE BRITISH. WE DO NOT,
HOWEVER, AS YET HAVE A FINAL REPORT ON THE MAPUTO
CONFERENCE. WHEN RECEIVED, WE WILL SEND YOU A WRAP-UP
TOGETHER WITH TALKING POINTS.

2. NAMIBIA:

A. DURING THE COURSE OF THE MAPUTO CONFERENCE, THE
MEMBERS OF THE CONTACT GROUP WERE ABLE TO DISCUSS THE
RESULTS OF THE CAPE TOWN TALKS WITH VARIOUS AFRICAN
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DELEGATIONS AND WITH SAM NUJOMA. WHILE THE AFRICANS
AND NUJOMA REMAIN SKEPTICAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN INTENTIONS,
THEY DO NOT OPPOSE CONTINUING EFFORTS ON THE PART OF
THE CONTACT GROUP. THIS ATTITUDE WAS REFLECTED IN THE
MAPUTO DECLARATION, WHICH PLACES NO BARRIERS TO FURTHER
NEGOTIATIONS. IN ADDITION, NUJOMA APPARENTLY AGREED TO
BE AVAILABLE TO THE CONTACT GROUP IN THE FUTURE. TO

THAT EXTENT, WESTERN ATTENDANCE AT THE MAPUTO CONFERENCE PAID DIVIDENDS.

TALKING POINTS:

-- APPARENTLY THE AFRICANS AND SWAPO ARE PREPARED TO HAVE US PURSUE FURTHER TALKS WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

-- THESE TALKS PROMISE TO BE DIFFICULT, GIVEN CONTINUING INDICATIONS THAT VOERSTER WANTS TO MAKE THE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY A SYNONYM FOR THE TURNHALLE CONSTITUTION. IN ADDITION, THE SOUTH AFRICANS WILL BE HARD TO PERSUADE TO TAKE A UN ROLE IN NAMIBIA OF A SORT ACCEPTABLE TO THE AFRICANS.

-- WE PROPOSE THAT THE CONTACT GROUP MEET IN NEW YORK ON THURSDAY OR FRIDAY TO COMPARE NOTES ON WHERE WE STAND WITH SWAPO AND THE AFRICANS AND TO PREPARE FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF TALKS IN CAPE TOWN.

B. IN NAMIBIA, THE REFERENDUM HELD MAY 17 AMONG WHITE VOTERS RESULTED IN A 95 PERCENT 'YES' VOTE FOR THE QUESTION (QUOTE) ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT AND INDEPENDENCE FOR THE TERRITORY OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES ACCEPTED BY THE (TURNHALLE) CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE? (END QUOTE). MORE THAN 60 PERCENT OF THE TERRITORY'S 52,000 ELIGIBLE VOTERS PARTICIPATED IN THE REFERENDUM. OBSERVERS HAVE COMMENTED THAT WHITES WERE AWARE THAT THERE MAY BE MAJOR CHANGES IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL PRO-
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POSALS AND WERE VOTING AS MUCH FOR A MULTI-RACIAL FUTURE GENERALLY AS FOR SPECIFIC CONSTITUTIONAL PLANS. THIS, HOWEVER, MAY BE AN OVERLY OPTIMISTIC VIEW; IT IS EQUALLY LIKELY THAT VOTERS THOUGHT THEY WERE EXPRESSING THEMSELVES IN FAVOR OF A SYSTEM THAT WOULD MAINTAIN THE POSITION OF WHITES IN NAMIBIA.

3. RHODESIA:

A. THE KAUNDA GOVERNMENT HAS BLAMED RHODESIAN PROVOCATIVE ACTION, INCLUDING THE PLANTING OF LANDMINES IN ZAMBIA AS PROMPTING THE SHELLING OF VICTORIA FALLS ON MAY 18. THE RHODESIANS HAVE DENIED THE ALLEGATIONS. THE BORDER REMAINS TENSE BUT QUIET.

THE UN CONSULTATIVE GROUP LED BY JOHN GRAHAM IS CURRENTLY IN GABORONE, BOTSWANA FOR TALKS WITH BISHOP MUZOREWA. AMBASSADOR LOW IS ACCOMPANYING GRAHAM. GRAHAM WANTS TO PROCEED TO MAPUTO FOR CONVERSATIONS WITH ROBERT MUGABE. HOWEVER, HE IS AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS FROM LONDON. FCO

UNDER SECRETARY ROWLANDS BELIEVES THAT THE VISIT WOULD BE UNWISE, COMING SO SOON AFTER THE MAPUTO CONFERENCE.

LOW WILL GO TO MAPUTO AS WELL, INTERRUPTING HIS TRAVEL AS NECESSARY TO BE IN LUSAKA DURING SUNDAY'S VISIT OF AMBASSADOR YOUNG.

B. BEFORE LEAVING LUSAKA, LOW AND GRAHAM MET WITH LEO BARON, ZAMBIAN SUPREME COURT JUSTICE AND ONE OF NKOMO'S CONSTITUTIONAL ADVISORS. BARON WAS PESSIMISTIC ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES OF GROUP'S SUCCESS, BUT ASSERTED THAT NKOMO TRULY WANTS A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. ZAPU HAS DONE LITTLE THINKING RECENTLY ABOUT A CONSTITUTION. HOWEVER, THERE SURELY COULD BE NO ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE TO UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE. BARON ARGUED THAT THE CONSTITUTION MUST BE FLEXIBLE ENOUGH, THAT IS, NOT LOADED WITH RESTRICTIVE PROVISIONS, SO THAT THE INDEPENDENT
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GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE FREEDOM AT ACT.

CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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